

I have seen the comments of a number of organizations who have presented their arguments against an expanded role for LPFM stations in communities, and it's clear that, beneath their rhetoric, their comments are intended to protect their own interests rather than the needs of local listeners.

To me, it's inescapable logic that a local radio station staffed by people who live, work, and attend school in that same community is much better-equipped to provide the localized information needed by people living there.

Where I live, there is a full-power station that meets that need. WOCO does an excellent job of it. But many communities aren't as fortunate. They must choose from a variety of canned formats supplemented with call letters and commercial drop-ins. Many of these stations have all but abandoned their local communities. If you visit them, their lights are out, and nobody's home.

Now, along have come small groups and organizations that are willing to muster the necessary funds and people to broadcast really compelling, local-interest programming, even if they can only do it over very low power signals. That shows an eagerness to serve their communities that should not be snuffed out by long-distance content providers and large broadcast groups motivated more by their own self-interest than the needs of the local public.

In my opinion, the FCC is in a position to do something really wonderful by empowering the efforts of these unselfish little local organizations to provide for the needs of their communities. I hope the FCC will follow-through and allow more LPFM licenses to proceed, as proposed.

Best regards,

Dane Scott Udenberg